

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A recording apparatus for recording an image on a recording medium on the basis of image data supplied from an image supply device, characterized by
5 comprising:

reception means for receiving a layout command for arranging a plurality of images and information for designating the plurality of images to be arranged in accordance with the layout command from the image
10 supply device;

setting means for setting either a first recording mode for recording the plurality of images by overlaying or a second recording layout mode for recording the plurality of images without overlaying in
15 accordance with the characteristics of the plurality of images, in a case where the layout command is received from the image supply device by said reception means;
and

control means for, in a case where said setting
20 means sets the first recording mode of the plurality of images, controlling to overlay and record the plurality of images supplied from the image supply device.

2. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1,
25 characterized in that:

in a case where the plurality of images to be recorded have a plurality of image formats, said

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setting means sets the first recording mode of a plurality of images included in the recording start command.

5 3. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that said setting means sets the first recording mode, in a case where the plurality of images include at least one JPEG image and a predetermined number of PNG images.

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4. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the layout command includes the number of records and/or the number of images to be recorded on a single recording medium as a condition.

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5. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that said control means overlays the plurality of images supplied from the image supply device in an order in which the images are received.

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6. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the plurality of image include at least one of an image format that designates an image which can be seen through, an image format that designates an image file stored at a specific storage location, an image format that designates an image file with a specific file name, an image format that

designates an image file with specific tag information,
and an image format that designates image files in a
specific order.

- 5 7. (Amended) An image supply device for supplying image
data to a printer, characterized by comprising:

setting means for setting either a first print
mode for printing the plurality of images by overlaying
or a second print mode for printing the plurality of
10 images without overlaying the images;

command issuance means for issuing an image print
command including information for designating images to
be printed and a layout command, wherein the layout
command is common to the first and second print modes
15 and the characteristics of the images to be printed are
different from each other in accordance with the first
or second print mode set by said setting means; and

means for supplying image data, which is
requested from the printer in response to the image
20 print command issued by said command issuance means, to
the image output device.

8. An image supply device for supplying image data to
an image output device, characterized by comprising:

25 first acquisition means for acquiring format
information of image files that can be handled by the
image output device;

second acquisition means for, in a case where the
format information acquired by said first acquisition
means includes predetermined format information,
acquiring a layout function supported by the image
5 output device;

setting means for, in a case where the layout
function acquired by said second acquisition means
satisfies a predetermined condition, setting a
plurality of image data and a layout function to be
10 supplied to the image output device;

command issuance means for issuing an image
output command to the image output device on the basis

of the plurality of image data and the layout function set by said setting means; and

means for supplying image data, which is requested from the image output device in response to
5 the image output command issued by said command issuance means, to the image output device.

9. The device according to claim 8, characterized in that the predetermined format information includes a
10 JPEG format and a PNG format.

10. The device according to claim 8, characterized in that the predetermined condition of the layout function includes a 1-up or N-up function.
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11. (Amended) A control method for a recording apparatus for recording an image on a recording medium on the basis of image data supplied from an image supply device, characterized by comprising:

20 a reception step of receiving a layout command for arranging a plurality of images and information for designating the plurality of images to be arranged in accordance with the layout command from the image supply device;

25 a setting step of setting either a first recording mode for recording the plurality of images by overlaying or a second recording mode for recording the

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plurality of images without overlaying in accordance with the characteristics of the plurality of images, in a case where the layout command is received from the image supply device in said reception step; and

5 a control step of controlling, in a case where the first recording mode of the plurality of images is set in said setting step, to overlay and record the plurality of images supplied from the image supply device.

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12. (Amended) The method according to claim 11, characterized in that said setting step includes a step of setting, in a case where a recording start command supplied from the image supply device includes a layout
15 command and a plurality of image formats, the first recording mode of a plurality of images included in the recording start command.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 11,
20 characterized in that said setting means sets the first recording mode in a case where the plurality of images include at least one JPEG image and a predetermined number of PNG images.

25 14. (Amended) The method according to claim 13, characterized in that the layout command includes the number of records and/or the number of images to be

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recorded on a single recording medium as a condition.

15. The method according to claim 13, characterized in
that said control step includes a step of overlaying
5 the plurality of images supplied from the image supply
device in an order in which the images are received.

case where images designated by the designation data include the specific image.

42. An apparatus according to claim 41, characterized
5 in that the specific image is an image to be seen through.

43. An apparatus according to claim 41, characterized
in that the specific image has a predetermined format
10 of image other than JPEG.

44. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 41,
characterized in that the specific image has a
predetermined file name or arranged in a predetermined
15 folder.

45. An apparatus according to claim 41, characterized
by further comprising set means for setting an order of
overlapping images in accordance with an order of
20 designation of images among the images designated by
the designation data.

46. A recording method of recording an image on a
recording medium based on image data supplied from an
25 image supply device, characterized by comprising the
steps of:

receiving a layout condition from the image
supply device, wherein the layout condition specifies a

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49. A computer readable recording medium characterized by storing a program of implementing a recording method according to claim 47.

5 50. A program characterized by implementing a recording method according to claim 46.

51. A program characterized by implementing a recording method according to claim 47.

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52. (New) A method for supplying image data from an image supply device to a printer, characterized by comprising:

a setting step of setting either a first print
15 mode for printing the plurality of images by overlaying or a second print mode for printing the plurality of images without overlaying the images;

a command issuance step of issuing an image print
command including information for designating images to
20 be printed and a layout command, wherein the layout command is common to the first and second print modes and the characteristics of the images to be printed are different from each other in accordance with the first or second print mode set by said setting means; and

25 a step of supplying image data, which is requested from the printer in response to the image print command issued in said command issuance step, to the image output device.